

REMARKS

Amendment summary

Claim 12 is canceled.

Claim 14 is newly added. Support for this claim may be found at least, e.g., at page 14, lines 6-7 of the present specification.

No new matter is added by this Amendment, and Applicant respectfully submits that entry of this Amendment is proper.

Status of the claims

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1, 3-8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Toda et al. (JP 05-302026) in view of Watabe et al. (JP 05-059267) (hereinafter “Toda” and “Watabe,” respectively). In addition, claims 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Toda and Watanabe in view of Hirose et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,593,068) (hereinafter “Hirose”). Claim 13 was not rejected.

Allowability of claim 13

Claim 13 was not rejected in the previous Office Action. Accordingly, it is understood that claim 13 is allowed.

Response to rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant does not agree with the position set forth in the Office Action, but for the sake of advancing prosecution has canceled claim 12.

Response to rejections based on Toda and Watanabe

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Toda in view of Watabe. In addition, claims 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Toda and Watanabe in view of Hirose. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner's main objection to the Declaration evidence submitted previously is that it is allegedly not commensurate in scope with the claims. In this regard, Applicant submits herewith additional experimental evidence sufficient to overcome the pending rejection. In particular, the Declaration evidence submitted herewith is commensurate in scope with components (B) and (C) of the present claims, which are the components that the Examiner pointed to in the previous Office Action.

Applicants now refer to Experiments 7-10 in Table 1 of Mr. Fujimoto's attached Declaration. In Experiment 7, 100 parts by weight of (B) component is present, relative to 100 parts by weight of component (A). The adhesive strength of Experiment 7 is 30.1 N/25mm, which is almost equal to that in Example 1 (Table 2). Also with respect to the amount of component (B) present, Experiments 8 and 9 in the Declaration show that the pressure sensitive adhesive composition provides a sufficient adhesive strength even when only a small amount of

(B) component is used (7.5 or 3 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of component

(A)).

With respect to component (C), Experiment 10 in the attached Declaration shows that the pressure sensitive adhesive composition provides a sufficient adhesive strength when the amount of (C) component is 30 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of (A) and (B) in total.

Taken together with the data from the Declaration filed on April 6, 2010, Applicant respectfully submits that the unexpected results of the presently claimed invention are commensurate in scope with the claims.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is not rendered obvious by Toda in view of Watabe, either alone or in combination with Hirose, and respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

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/Travis B. Ribar /

Travis B. Ribar
Registration No. 61,446